

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Richard E Robinson <rerobins@uncc.edu>
Subject: [3168] 1960s QRP Rig
Message-ID: <199601222042.PAA02883@unccsun.uncc.edu>

Does anyone remember ads from Western Radio in Kearney, NE? I think that was the name of the place. My best friend in high school, WA4LKH now WA4VSR, had 2 battery operated tube QRP rigs that we had on 40 meters. I'm fairly sure they had 2 tubes, xtal controlled, super-regen receivers. I don't think I ever worked anyone but Willard with the thing and I don't remember his working anyone but me. Where he got them is a mystery to me and he can't remember where they are now.

That rig is up there on my want list along with a rocket radio to replace the one I had as a kid.

73,

Rick kf4ar ex-WA4MSD
rerobins@uncc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [3164] 80 Meters, a F.B. QSO Band
Message-ID: <199601222031.PAA26077@dartvax.dartmouth.edu>

Hello Gang,

I'd really like to participate in the 80 meter net on Sunday night. But I'm afraid the 22:00 local e.s.t. is past my bed time. I'll have to get the next day off some time and give it a try.

I had one of the nicest QSO's in my ham career this weekend, on 80 meters. We were both qrp, and the other guy was running a Ten Tec 509 at 250 milliwatts. Both antennas were dipoles, mine is 20 feet higher than his. I was running 5 watts from a Ten Tec 556 Argo. So far nothing too unusual about the set up, maybe just the 1/4 watt power on the other end.

We chatted for a long time with very little fade, but he did have some noise on his end. I gave him a 569, the gave me a 559, we were just 90 miles apart in the same state. There was lots of room to spread out too. Some great rag chewing can be had on 80, albeit not always DX, but it is QRP and it is CW. So what more could I possibly want?

80 is a great band for this end of the sun cycle. It offers a good chance

to brush up on CW skill, and have a great time doing it.

At this time of year there were few static crashes, I heard none all day. With 40 being so crowded, wouldn't it be nice to spread out a little and get to know some hams locally?

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>
Subject: [3181] Announcement: The Great Code Speed Challenge
Message-ID: <9601230121.AA05517@flowserver.stem.com>

Greetings! In order to get my code speed up to 20wpm, I need to practice, practice, practice. This means QS0s. Now, as I am limited by my apartment dwelling to an indoor 40m dipole at qrp levels, I don't make all the contacts I might otherwise hope for....therefore, I am announcing the great code speed challenge. I will be on the air nightly on 40m (weekends, I will probably migrate to 10 through 20 during the day). Anyone who contacts me will earn a useful trinket from my junk pile. (My junk pile has been recently augmented by a 15m rig I'm homebrewing as I have been scratching together parts from various sources and have, recently, gone ahead and ordered everything through the mail...in all fairness, however, useful trinket will vary from a couple ceramic caps, to neat little air caps to nte semiconductors...). To be eligible, you must contact me on the air and then email me a snail address within 48 hours.

What do I hope to achieve by this? A few scattered ears listening for that N9uxu call.

73 de dave, n9uxu

```
=====
David J Adams                N9UXU QRP-L #83
dave@flowserver.stem.com    NorCal QRP #1442
(415) 813-5028              Flow Cytometry Specialist
```

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: BWHITTEM_at_NCALAN1@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com (BWHITTEM)
Subject: [3143] boat anchors list??
Message-ID: <103fb1b0@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

can someone please send the posting address of the boat
anchors list?
i just want to post a message not join the list.
thanks barry
wb1edi

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Richard E Robinson <rerobins@uncc.edu>
Subject: [3163] Boatanchors
Message-ID: <199601222023.PAA02051@unccsun.uncc.edu>

The address for posting to Boatanchors is:

boatanchors@theporch.com

To join:

boatanchors-request@theporch.com

in body of message only put:

subscribe BOATANCHORS your name

Hope this helps.

73,

Rick Robinson kf4ar

rerobins@uncc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "Jim Kortge, NU8N" <jokortge@sun.tir.com>
Subject: [3184] Cascade 40/17 meter notes
Message-ID: <9601230248.AA06411@tir.com>

A narrow bandwidth announcement. I've sent the Cascade 40/17 meter modification notes to everyone that sent me a request. Anyone else need them??

72....Jim

Jim Kortge, NU8N		Bicycle Mobile Hams
jokortge@tir.com	__o	of America
Fenton, MI	_`\<,	Mizuho 17m/40m QRP SSB
.. .. .	(*)/(*)	

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Jim Lowman <jlowman@iepsnet.com>
Subject: [3180] Crystal filters or DSP?
Message-ID: <199601230041.TAA102674@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

While this question isn't unique to QRP, I have found this group to have quite a grip on technical issues.

With a lot of campaigning on my part, the club just bought an IC-706. One of the OTs suggested that we get a couple of the optional filters, specifically, CW filters.

Another sage member, who is currently employed as a radio tech, suggested buying an outboard DSP instead, considering the cost (~\$100 each) of the optional filters.

Anyone have any comments on this issue?

72/73 de Jim - KF6CR
San Bernardino, CA (DM14JC)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: William McFadden <wmcfadde@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>
Subject: [3119] Days Inn South
Message-ID: <199601221522.KAA26593@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>

Hi all.

I just called Days Inn to inquire about reserving a room for Wednesday and Thursday nights, 15 and 16 May, and was told that the Days Inn South is all booked already.

I know that someone named Myron in the past has coordinated room reservations for the QRP group. Does he reserve a block of room in advance for this and then take names? Or am I out in the cold, as it were?

73,

Eric.

--

W. Eric McFadden WD8RIF
wmcfadden@ohiou.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3174] Dayton lodging info
Message-ID: <199601222247.PAA20172@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

I appologize for breaking the golden rule about not dumping Dayton stuff on QRP-L but feel this is important. There have been posts about Days Inn being sold out. Not true. Below is the info sent to the Dayton mailer for those of you not on that list. The real point is Days Inn is accomodating the QRPers nicely and it would be a shame to have everyone staying across the street because they heard Days Inn was sold out. It would make ARCI look bad and hard to make a good deal next year.

Gang,

I just made reservations at the Days Inn in Dayton, no problem. A block of rooms have been set aside for the QRPers, which shows up on the reservation computer as "sold out" if you call the nationwide toll free number.

Call Days Inn direct at 513-847-8422, talk to Molly in Sales. As of this afternoon, there are 58 rooms still available. Far from sold out.

Identify yourself as being with the "QRP group" for the \$70/nite rate. You need to either send the first nites rate via check or a charge card number to hold the reservation. All rooms not secured by the deposit within 2 weeks of making reservations will be cancelled.

GL and CU there,
Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Steve Slavsky <sslavsky@CapAccess.org>
Subject: [3160] Explorer II Drift
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.960122145733.21821A-1000000@cap1.capaccess.org>

Before my request for info, a comment on the SSB Sprint. I had limited time, so I stuck to 40M in the mid afternoon. Heard a QRP pile-up at 7.280 and an occasional CQ above that. I tried, but could not get through to anyone, so I called CQ at about 7.290, and, with my powerful 4 watts, got yelled at for interfering with a net (neither side of which I had heard) somewhere in Illinois. Don't think I can count that as a contact, but it was 2-way. Reminded me of the times I came in on peoples TV sets on 6 meters in the late 60's and considered 20 miles of TVI good DX. Ran out of time at that point.

My question - I remember several discussions about drift on the Cascade, even saved the messages for when I build it. I am ready to start on my Explorer II for 40 and I saw a message about Explorer II drift, just mentioning it. Have there been any tests done and possible fixes (like substituting capacitors)? I try not to be a trailblazer, just don't have the electronic knowledge, so if its already been done, I'm more than willing to listen.

Please e-mail me direct (unless others are interested) with any info on this (if there is any - I could be hallucinating in the ether). Thanks to all.

73 & 72,

Steve Slavsky, N4EUK
Reston, VA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: SYDV00A@prodigy.com (MR FLOYD E SMITHBERG)
Subject: [3175] Fireside SSB Sprint
Message-ID: <013.09273478.SYDV00A@prodigy.com>

Where was everyone? Maybe I started too late...2pm local MST and operated 20 meters for 1.5 hrs. Didn't hear many Contest CQs so started to call CQs myself. Had replies from ARCI, non ARCI QRP and QRO as follows:

	ARCI	QRP	QRO	Totals
QSOs	8	6	11	25
Pts	40	12	22	74
SPC				13
Power Multiplier(9.5W)				7

Score= Pts x SPC x PM = 6734

Hope these calculations are valid.

After 1.5 hours op, activity was so slow that I quit trying. But did manage to work from CA to NJ and VE7 to GA so conditions were not all that bad. Had heavy QRM at first but it diminished as the band started to change. Maybe others who operated during different time frame had more activity but it was still interesting and fun.

Equipment used:

TS850S/AT programmed for peak reading power at 9.5W to HB W7EL Wattmeter to Heath 2060A Tuner to 3 Element Triband at 45 Ft.

Floyd NQ7X ARCI G-QRP NORCAL QRP-L ScQRPion

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "Warren E. Lewis" <saswel@unx.sas.com>
Subject: [3146] Fireside SSB Sprint and RS-12
Message-ID: <199601221739.AA12609@cardamom.unx.sas.com>

Gang,

Well I wound up with 4 QSOs on 40M and 1 on 80M. Having not spent much time up in the Phone portions of 40M before I didn't realize how much of a mess it becomes here on the East Coast around 3pm local. What would have helped I am sure is a good DSP filter to get rid of the the heterodynes. My ears are still ringing.

I do need a bit of clarification of the rules. It said that you could work any 4 hours of the 8 hour local period. Does this mean that it had to be a continuous stretch of 4 hours or

could it be 2 hours and then a break and then another 2 hours?
If it is the first case I will have to discount my 80M contact
and send it in as a checklog. Regardless of the damage I did to
my ears :-)) it was a fun event.

I want to thank the QRP gang for getting me to try the
RS-12 Satellite!! Talk about excitement...I had the same
excitement about it as I did my first CW QSO as a Tech Plus
a few years back. And boy is it easy...I thought it was
going to be hard. All you need is a way to transmit on 15M and
listen on 10M. I use my TS-450 in split mode. I have also
done it with my Argo 509 as the transmitter and the TS-450
as the receiver. I have never had any problems with making a
contact or two during the passes with between 3-5 watts
on the uplink. I would like to encourage anybody who has
ever thought about doing this to do it...it really is
easy...just a bit more difficult than figuring out how to
get the offset correct to the local 2M repeater. :-))

Thanks again to this great list for all the encouragement
and great operating advice!!!

- Warren

--

Warren E. Lewis
Technical Support Division
SAS Institute Inc.
Cary, NC

saswel@unx.sas.com
(919) 677-8001 x6542
PP-ASEL
AD4ZE QRP-L#78 DOD#0021

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3134] Fox nite solar forecast
Message-ID: <199601221649.JAA06943@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Over the weekend, solar activity remained very low with sunspot numbers
averaging 6, 10.7cm flux about 70, the A-index 7-12 and maximum usable
frequencies (MUF) going from depressed values to above normal. Significant
sporadic E skip was measured last 2 days.

FORECAST for Jan. 22-24 (FOX NITES)
Sunspot number: 5
10cm flux: low 70's
A-index: 8 on monday, 5 tues-wed.
Solar activity: very low

Magnetic: quiet/unsettled monday, quiet tues-wed.

HF propagation: MUF's should be 15-30% above average with strong sporadic E layers expected to continue over the next few days.

SUMMARY: The geomagnetic storming of last week is over; values now at normal "bottom of the bucket" levels ... meaning nothing great, but at least normal 40M propagation with normal noise levels. However, the sporadic E forecast is encouraging, as this could produce some pleasant skip conditions, just what you want for the fox hunts (unless you live 50 miles away).

Went upstairs this morning and used our Sun Workstations to view the color H-alpha images of the sun past few days from Sunspot observatory. Looks like a cue-ball in space ... absolutely featureless, both on the sun surface images and the H-alpha (higher in the sun's atmosphere). How they get 5-6 sunspots right now is beyond me. Looks like zero to me, but then again, I qualify as "to the untrained eye" category.

I was told, the area of the sun causing last week's storming is now on the limb and about to disappear, to be back in 25 days or so. This could suggest good conditions next 3 weeks.

Paul NA5N

crackle crackle (dit dit in geomagnetic storm)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996

From: ji3m@scubed.com (James R. Duffey)

Subject: [3137] FOX-Wednesday, January 24 KK6MC/5 Fox Schedule

Message-ID: <v02130501ad2964bb00e1@[192.31.66.224]>

Please note the change in start time!!!!

My Schedule for the FOX Hunt, Wednesday January 24, 1996

Time	Frequency
1800 MST	7108 =B1 QRM
1900 MST	7043=B1 QRM
2100 MST	QRT

Conversion to another local time, or to UTC is left as an exercise to the reader.

After the last few foxes have had trouble working the hunters I decided to take a long hard look at my scheduled times and how propagation would be during those times. As a result of that exercise I am moving up my earlier disseminated starting time of 1900 MST to 1800 MST. I did this after

looking at the forecast for 10.7 cm solar radio flux (proportional to sunspot number) and running a Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF) prediction to various points in the US. It seemed to me that a lot of people close in and on the west coast would be shut out with my original 1900 MST starting time. I will stay on for an additional hour to make sure that people that don't get this message can still work me and won't clog up the list with complaints. Since I missed my first outing as a FOX I doubt that I will be in the running for any prizes, so this shouldn't matter.

Predictions for Wednesday January 24 are: 10.7 cm Solar Flux 74
(about a sunspot number of 15)

Planetary A Index 5

Largest Kp index 2

The upshot of this is that the MUF will be low, particularly after sundown, but the sun is quiet so the band should be quiet and the absorption will be low. Traditional ham translation; long skip with low noise.

My maximum usable frequency (MUF) calculations for some representative US Cities are shown below.

City	Time (MST) the MUF reaches 7.0 MHz
Anchorage	1945
Atlanta	1930
Boston	2400 (never gets below 7 MHz)
Dallas	1700 (sorry Chuck)
Denver	Never above 7 MHz
Hawii	Never below 7 MHz
Houston	1745
Los Angeles	1800
Miami	Never Below 7 MHz
Minneapolis	1800
New York City	Never Below 7 MHz
Phoenix	Never above 7 MHz
Salt Lake City	1630
San Francisco	1845 (get home from work early Stan)
Seattle	1900
Saint Louis	1800
Washington, DC	Never Below 7 MHz (Bob should be strong)

Your mileage may (will) vary. The MUF calculation is statistical, as is the behavior of the ionosphere, so don't expect the band to fold between me and you exactly at the time shown. Also the frequency of optimum transmission is about 0.85 of the MUF so best propagation is likely to occur before the times shown. There are other modes of propagation other than F layer skip, so try to work me even if you appear to be shut out from

the above table. Just don't expect the signals to be strong.

If you want to roll your own propagation predictions here is my vital information; Cedar Crest, NM is located at 35.107N 106.372W. I will use my TS 850 at 5 watts output. My antenna is a delta loop 30 M in circumference fed with with 5 M ladder line up 35 feet. I am at 7000 ft ASL with good clear horizons from the NE to the SW. I generally have low line noise levels, S1 to S2, although on occasion I have experienced a 10 or 15 minute period during the fox hunt with levels of S5 or so. If that occurs I will just try to work through it. I have copied many QRPers on this list above that level.

By the way, I did a similar calculation last fall prior to scheduling my turn in the barrel. I was optimistic and used a sunspot number of 25 and concluded that a start of 1900 MST would be adequate.

See you Wednesday. Duffey KK6MC/5

James R Duffey KK6MC/5 DM65
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "BOB SCHNICK, KA3YJG" <SCHNICK@SHRSYS.HSLC.ORG>
Subject: [3152] FS Argonaut 509,515 and Argonaut II 535
Message-ID: <01I0BALE06SY9AN612@SHRSYS.HSLC.ORG>

TenTec Argonaut model 515, good condition cosmetically and electrically
\$450

TenTec Argonaut model 509 (aligned by Tentec 5/95), 50 watt linear amp model 405 and CW filter model 208,

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "BOB SCHNICK, KA3YJG" <SCHNICK@SHRSYS.HSLC.ORG>
Subject: [3154] FS ARGONAUT 515, 509 and Argonaut II 535
Message-ID: <01I0BAQ913C09AN612@SHRSYS.HSLC.ORG>

Sorry about the first incomplete post - please excuse.

TenTec Argonaut model 515, very good condition \$450

TenTec Argonaut model 509 (aligned by TenTec 5/95) model 405 linear 50 watt amp, and model 208 CW filter good condition \$400

TenTec Argonaut II model 535, excellent, dare I say mint? Absolutely pristine. Performs as advertised. Caviar for us tuna eaters. \$900

All equipment has original or photocopied manuals. Price is firm and does NOT include shipping.

Please E-mail or call 814 866 8165 7:30-3:00 EST Bob

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net (Thom LaCosta)
Subject: [3112] Heathkit HW-8 Poll: To build or not to build
Message-ID: <1c9_9601212129@fido261.qis.net>

Rick Blank wrote in a message to All:

RB> I have an unbuilt SB-610 monitor scope that's going to stay that
RB> way.

I picked one up that's built...but manual...could I get a copy of yours?

Thom LaCosta
N3WDV
Our Business is Business
--

|Internet: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net
| Standard disclaimer: The views of this user are strictly his own.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: penc@elan.mrwo.mcgill.ca
Subject: [3121] Heathkits, Cascade notes
Message-ID: <9601221528.AA08996@elan.mrwo.mcgill.ca>

Hi:

Last week someone posted to the list regarding mods/notes on converting a Cascade to 40/17 m. I'd like to obtain these by email, but I lost the original mail (plus my reply to them bounced). Any info on these?

My Cascade is taking the back seat to assembling my unbuilt Heathkit Electronic Weather Computer that I received as a PhD graduation gift from the wife. To the OM with the unbuilt Heath, I say go for it. I am yaking my time with the kit and enjoying every second. Perhaps I'm biased since I waited 6 years + to get hold of the kit, but the pleasure and experience building it far outweighs the profit I could have made selling it for a handsome profit unbuilt. If you're financially motivated, then hold on to it and sell it some time later. If radio and electronics gives you more pleasure, by all means build the kit. My route may not be for everyone, but to me it's well worth it. Other than a couple P-Box Radio Shack shortwave regen kits I built as a teenager in the 70's, and a couple small audio amp and AM/FM low power BCB projects, this Heathkit is my first "true" kit. My Norcal partial 40A and Cascade (and soon to be St. Louis) kits are next in line. IMHO, there is not much more exciting in the hobby than taking a bunck of parts and a circuit board (or fabricating a circuit board) and getting a working unit out of it.

Enjoy, and any info on the Cascade mods can be emailed directly to me at:
penc@radar.mcgill.ca.

72,

Rich Penc WK2A/VE2
Postdoctoral Research Associate
McGill Weather Radar Observatory
Macdonald Campus, McGill University
Ste. Anne deBellevue, Quebec

email: penc@radar.mcgill.ca

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: BWHITTEM_at_NCALAN1@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com (BWHITTEM)
Subject: [3166] J-38
Message-ID: <1041ea20@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

well i just had a j-38 given to me and can now try it out.
ive heard lots about them but never seen one.
73 all
barry
wb1edi

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: nu6u@w6trw.ampr.org
Subject: [3114] NA QSO Party/ Fireside SSB Sprint

Message-ID: <9096@w6trw.ampr.org>

Hello Gang

Did anyone work the NA QSO party, or the Fireside SSB Sprint this past weekend? I worked 13 states, and 25 Contacts in the QSO party, but only One (1) in the Fireside. How did You guys do?

Max (nu6u)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: flanders@GroupZ.net (Jerry Flanders)
Subject: [3156] NEAT CHEAP DSP FILTER
Message-ID: <199601221947.0AA19842@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

I heard some chat on rec.radio.whatever Saturday about Radio Shack closing out some audio DSP filters. The asked-for \$50 made it worth checking out.

My local store had one remaining in stock. I got it.

Brought it home and hooked it up. Pretty neat - it has two SSB (one called "NR") and one CW "mode" positions. You can select wide, medium, or narrow bandpass in either of the three modes.

In CW "narrow" mode, I measured 358 Hz wide at -6 dB, 454 Hz at -20, and 508 Hz at -30. Didn't measure the med and wide positions. I couldn't go below -30 dB with my quickie test setup.

The "NR" and SSB modes give you effective and immediate heterodyne elimination. It is so good that you CANNOT copy CW in this mode - the CW tone is eliminated so quickly when it appears that you really don't hear it! When RS refers to Noise Reduction ("NR"), they are referring to heterodynes, not QRN.

NR is the widest position - perhaps no bandpass shaping at all. SSB position reduces low-freq noise and does seem to improve SSB copy on a busy band.

The CW filter is a pleasure to use - all I had heard about lack of "ringing" was true. Listening to this filter long-term would be far more pleasant than the "Ringy-Dingy" 250 Hz CW filter in my ICOM 751.

THIS IS AN IMPRESSIVE GADGET.

I am not keeping this one only because (1) It shines brightest on SSB, and I am a digital guy. (2) You can't vary the CW tone freq - it was preset to

pass 575 to 933 (the -6 dB points I measured. On RTTY I need 2200 Hz bandpass center). (3) I like to use AGC, and filtering AFTER the AGC detector gives weird and unpredictable "pumping" of what you hear when another sig shows up in your IF passband.

Many of you guys would do well to grab one of these before they are gone. I suspect they won't be at RS ever again when the present stock is gone. Regular selling price was \$80.

It has a speaker built in and an audio amp and volume control also, and you can switch the DSP out of the circuit, so the unit can be a complete audio section. You must give it audio signal and 12 volts.

It is small - maybe 4 x 1.5 x 6 (WHD inches). Comes with under-dash bracket (for mobile SSB HF, I guess).

I didn't measure "idling" current, but RS manual says it may need up to 1 amp (The audio amp provides up to 6 watts, so that is where the "1 AMP" requirement probably comes from).

0.73's

Jerry Flanders W4UKU South Carolina flanders@groupz.net

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "M. Limtiaco" <limtiaco@u.washington.edu>
Subject: [3151] New OHR 400 FS
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91j.960122104549.112835A-100000@homer06.u.washington.edu>

For Sale: Brand new OHR 400 4-band QRP transceiver. Completely assembled by owner, aligned and tested by OHR. This rig has never been on the air and is being sold because I no longer have the time/finances to enjoy this hobby.

Price: \$265, includes UPS shipping. Would like to sell ASAP.
Interested parties should Email me at: limtiaco@u.washington.edu

73s,
Matso Limtiaco N7DUB

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996

From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 22-Jan-1996 1147" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [3138] on the air
Message-ID: <9601221659.AA26643@us4rnc.pko.dec.com>

Well, I'm on the air again, sort of.

I called a few people on 40m over the weekend, also CQ'ed for a while. Nobody heard my 1W. Lacking a real SWR instrument, I hooked up the old oscilloscope and looked at the waveform... hmm, real peaky at the high end of the band, relatively flat at the low end. So I took a couple feet off of each end of the inverted-vee. It's made out of insulated RatShack speaker wire, and I didn't account for the "lengthening effect" when I put it up, so it was due. Still didn't contact anyone, in fact the band was kinda quiet last night... where'd ya all go?

I had to rebuild the whole antenna Saturday... had a big storm Friday. The rain melted away 3 feet of snow, but the wind was incredible and totally destroyed my poor inv-vee. Also blew down the 35 ft. wire for my shortwave set...

-Tom R. N100Q randolph@est.enet.dec.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [3130] poles
Message-ID: <4628C2134D@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

As I was wandering around a local hardware store (which is more like a shopping mall), I found some interesting objects in the chimney sweep section. There they had nice four foot long fiberglass poles that have a threaded male on one end and threaded female on the other end. The poles were about 1/2 inch in diameter, perhaps slightly more. Three or four of these should make a nice center support for antennas, etc.

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

Timothy A. Stabler, Ph.D.
Department of Biology
Indiana University Northwest
Gary, IN 46408

(219)980-6718
FAX: (219)980-7125
(219)980-6866

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [3135] poles
Message-ID: <4695421AB6@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

This has been one of those mornings-----!!! I have no classes but the phone has not stopped ringing and EVERYBODY needs to talk with me, the chairman, NOW!!!

In my posting about the fiberglass poles, I forgot price. The poles were going for \$3.49 each. They are four feet long, as I said, so they will not fit in your back pocket. But, they are light in weight and, I suspect, very durable.

I was thinking four of these along with a wire antenna or a shortened dipole made from two mobile antennas would not be heavy and should be easy to transport.

Let me know how you do.

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

Timothy A. Stabler, Ph.D.
Department of Biology
Indiana University Northwest
Gary, IN 46408

(219)980-6718
FAX: (219)980-7125
(219)980-6866

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "Richard Hieber" <Richard.Hieber@rrze.uni-erlangen.de>
Subject: [3132] Qdope - A reaction
Message-ID: <A3F5CA45FF@isis.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>

Hi gang,

someone on Packet Radio responded to the Qdope thread that I forwarded to that medium. FYI:

PA0NWZ > DL8MFQ 20.01.96 03:23 20 Lines 961 Bytes #180 @DB0SIF.#HES.DEU.EU
Subj: (4) Q-dope
Path: !DB0SIF!DB0AIS!DB0NDK!DB0ACH!DB0OVN!PI8JOP!PI8HWB!

Sent: 960119/0926Z @:PI8HNB.#NBW.NLD.EU #:59471 [Breda] FBB5.15c \$:59471_PI8HNB

From: PA0NWZ@PI8HNB.#NBW.NLD.EU

To : DL8MFQ@DB0SIF.#HES.DEU.EU

Hello Richard,

You do remember probable that I am a rather frequent reader of your QRP messages. In this discussion about Q-dope I should like interfere if I could!

The name 'Q'!! dope refers to the quality factor and mainly of coils. It's polystyrene dissolved in toluene. The toluene evaporates and the polystyrene remains on the coil. In cases where the Q of the coil is of any importance I should never use nail polish, because I experienced a dramatic drop of the Q. Stuart K5KVH mentioned that in one of the earlier discussions but it seems they didn't notice. It's good to hold a screw in place but not on a coil. Also PVC isn't any good as the frequency becomes a bit higher. I used that in a test setup as a form for a helical filter on 50MHz. That didn't work out at all, so I used teflon.

Regards from Jan PA0NWZ @ PI8HNB.#NBW.NLD.EU

Timestamp: Fri 19-01-96 10:01 local time (Z+1h)

72,

Richard

--

Richard Hieber, DL8MFQ/AA8CP

EMAIL: Richard.Hieber@rrze.uni-erlangen.de

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996

From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Subject: [3142] QQ Expiration Date

Message-ID: <199601221720.RAA23647@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Will everyone when you get home today (if you work or can get to work) please look at your mailing label on the last issue of the Quarterly you got. Has your subscription expired?

I make it a habit to look at every mailing label I get. It keeps reminding me to sit down and write another check. It is surprising how often renewal time comes around. I did a quick check on those that post that they were missing an issue and there seem to be a number of expired

subs.

FYI

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: flanders@GroupZ.net (Jerry Flanders)
Subject: [3165] QRP Beacon Certificates
Message-ID: <199601222032.PAA31011@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

I have been printing up the certificates that aa4xx will be sending out to those who copied his New Year's weekend beacon. He will be passing them along in the near future, I expect.

I had been hoping to automate the production by supplying my word processor with the pertinent variable data (call, qth, certificate number, etc) from a file, and just let the program insert the changing data as each new certificate is printed.

I know my Word for Windows(latest version, also have an earlier one) has this feature, but I could not get it going in time (and my "help" feature kept giving me GPF's) and finally gave up and did all the editing by hand - bummer. Hopefully, the next batch I do will be more automated. Ideally, Paul would e-mail a list to me and I would just feed the list to my computer with pretty paper in the laserjet.

I need for one of you guys who know how this is done (or whose secretary knows) to give me a example document so I can set this up.

0.73's

Jerry Flanders W4UKU South Carolina

e-mail to flanders@groupz.net

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: QLF%mimi@magic.itg.ti.com
Subject: [3127] QRP-L
Message-ID: <9601221619.AA27791@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: QRP-L

DL8BDF's suggestion of a relay to bypass the 0.7 VDC (or so) drop through the protection diode is certainly a workable solution. However, if power consumption is an issue, the 100 mA or so that the relay coil will draw, may be more than the user can live with.

73's

Brad, WB0CGH

Brad Bradfield, PE
108 Forestwood
Corinth, TX 76205

Electrical Design Engineer
Texas Instruments, Inc.

QLF@MSG.TI.COM

(H) 817-321-2960
(W) 214-462-6230

WB0CGH@W05H.#DFW.TX.USA.NA

ARRL Life Member QRP-L #377 SMIRK #4906 IEEE(M)

Collector of wireless and landline Morse keys and accessories.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996

From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>

Subject: [3123] quarterly

Message-ID: <01I0B16FLAGY9QWFKD@tntech.edu>

Has the ARCI newsletter been out in a while.. I haven't gotten one in quite some time

72

Jeff, AC4HF

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996

From: RobCap@aol.com

Subject: [3177] Results: HW-8, To Build or Not to Build
Message-ID: <960122161923_302180392@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Hi Folks-

A few days ago I asked the QRP-L to help me wrestle with a question: To Build or Not to Build a recently acquired unbuilt HW-8. I enjoyed the responses, and the lively discussion.

The results of my poll were as follows:

Build it: 8
Don't Build it: 12

Folks had *strong* feelings. One person wrote that I would be destroying a "treasure" if I built the radio. But another fellow wrote that leaving the kit as a bag of parts is like having a Strat violin that is never played.

Wow! Nobody on the fence here!

Here is some of the analysis:

Arguments from folks not to build:

- 1) You're destroying a treasure.
- 2) You're reducing the financial value of the rig.
- 3) HW-8's (built) are common. Go find one that's sick, and fix it up and modify it to death. It'll be just as much fun, and you can keep the unbuilt one in tact.
- 4) The HW-8 isn't that hot a radio. After you build it, it'll see much less air time than your OHR-400, Sierra, or Argo.
- 5) Save it. It might pay for an FT-1000 some day.

Arguments from folks to build:

- 1) Unbuilt, the radio is just a bag of parts.
- 2) The HW-8 was designed to be built, modified, and enjoyed.
- 3) What has our society come to? A focus on financial/ collector value should not be subordinated to the utility of using the radio.

My decision.

Well, the decision is a personal one, and I cannot disagree with anyone who wrote and shared their feelings. But I especially resonate to the view that "HW-8's (built) are common (and inexpensive). Go find one that's sick, and fix it up and modify it to death. It'll be just as much fun, and you can keep the unbuilt one in tact."

Financial value does not enter into my decision. But I do think it's worth

preserving the Heathkit legacy, and letting people see what the kits looked like in kit form. I was surprised to open the box, and discover that Heath provided a roll of Kester solder in a little plastic bag! (Not to mention wire, cable and alignment tools).

Thousands of built Heath radios are around for people to see the final product. I think it's worth hanging on to a few of the unbuilt radios for posterity.

So for the time being, I'm decided to put this jewel away. Contact me when you're passing through Chapel Hill, NC, and we can unpack it together, admire it, put it away, and fire up my OHR-400 or Sierra.

Thanks again to all that wrote. It was lots of fun, and I enjoyed reading your views.

73,

Rob, WA3ULH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "j. w. thornton" <dub@iamerica.net>
Subject: [3155] Rompin, Stompin OHR Classic:
Message-ID: <199601221929.NAA12807@ns2.iAmerica.net>

Hi Gang:

Just had an eye-opening experience. Was on the air calling CQ with one of my beloved old Ten Tecs (Delta 580). Action was quite slow, but finally heard a lil squeak down under the noise. Tuning to the best of my ability allowed me to finally read the call K5ID, but I could not work him at all. I had just run a comparison of rx noise level betwixt the Classic and Argosy II and Delta, with Argosy II and Classic running very close & Delta bringing up the rear.

A quick flip of coupla switches put the Classic on line and I had a very nice 30 minit chat, not only QRP to QRP, but Classic to Classic with K5ID Ken in Hot Springs Ar. I wont tell you it was armchair copy nor absolutely solid copy, but I am amazed that the little kit type rigs can hold their own and even best a lot of the commercial gear.

"72" Dub WA5YFY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: PeterWK8S@aol.com
Subject: [3120] S Meters?
Message-ID: <960122102208_123729624@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Hi folks,
Anyone know a source (name and number) of good quality, 100 uA movement, edge type S Meters? I want to add one to a Wilderness Sierra. The one I have appears to require over 200 uA.

Thanks,

Pete WK8S

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Joel Malman <malman@bbnplanet.com>
Subject: [3185] SSB / VHF Contests
Message-ID: <9601222209.aa21544@poblano.bbnplanet.com>

Group,

Re: the SSB Sprint, I listened a lot on the SSB freq's and heard no contest calls. I suppose it's time to work on the antenna again. Especially since the current "invisible" antenna did get asked about by a neighbor. (See below)

I had a good time with the VHF contest, but there were not many stations working the contest.

OB-QRP: I have been reading over my Condo (townhouse) rules and regs, and when you read it close, it says that you can not construct (mount) an antenna on Condo Association building property - no mention of mounting an antenna in the "Common Area" (Condo owners those words, very well). I'm thinking of testing the Rules and Regs, by attaching a vertical to a dead tree stump about 50 feet from the shack. Any lawyers out there who can offer some ham/condo advice?

My best guess is, that I have QRP fun for the 6 months it takes before the Condo Rules are changed and I have to remove the vertical.

cheers,

/joel wa1qvm malman@bbn.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: plquick@facstaff.wisc.edu (Paulette Quick, N9OUH)

Subject: [3136] St. Louis Tuner
Message-ID: <v02110102ad291c33b42f@[144.92.104.160]>

Picked up the mail Friday night. Saw an *envelope* from Jim Cates. Was he returning my check for the St. Louis Tuner? Whew! It was a letter (I was expecting a postcard) saying I will be sent tuner #177. If they're only making 200, I'd say there isn't much time left.

Sure hope we get a good dump of snow so I can stay home from work and build something.

72 de N90UH
Paulette Quick
plquick@facstaff.wisc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: scicior@cp.uswc.uswest.com (Steve Ciciora)
Subject: [3173] St. Louis Tuner results
Message-ID: <9601222237.AA01596@sp5-316.nts.uswest.com>

On 1/11/96, mailed a check for \$90 to Jim Cates (tuner + membership), and on 1/19/96 received confirmation # 178. They don't seem to be selling as fast as I expected, but there is still time to order one if you want one! Not only that, I got the Dec. '95 issue of QRPP, 67 pages long! I've already ordered all the back issues (712 pages total) for \$43. Not a bad deal if you ask me... Much cheaper than some text books I've purchased, that were a lot shorter.

Have Fun!
-Steven Ciciora
KB0PJF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3161] Subs to QQ
Message-ID: <199601221856.SAA23903@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Let me resend this info to update everyone.

QRP ARCI membership and subs to:

Mike Bryce, WB8VGE
2225 Mayflower, NW
Massillon, OH 44647

73357.222@compuserve.com

for DXers across the pond (TX talk for the Atlantic Ocean)

Dick Pasco, G0BPS
Seaview House
Crete Road East
Folkestone, Kent CT18 7EG
England

Rate is \$12 for new memberships (DX: \$14)
and \$10 (DX: \$12) for renewals. (L7 and L6 respectively for
British pounds if to Dick Pasco)

As a side note: I have two ARCI Numbers 3471 and 6285. Cause
due to change in call signs back when, thus make sure that you
note any upgrades etc. and what call sign your number is under.

Maybe I can sell the 6285 number :-)

On page 51, January Quarterly. My call is K5F0 and my email
address is adams@sgi.com. I know that when you probably
see email from me it shows adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com due
to fully qualified hostname, but the shorter address is easier
to remember and it will get forwarded internally to me. FYI.
Due to typos my call is not W5F0, that belongs to Lynn another
contester in the Dallas area.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5F0 CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: BWHITTEM_at_NCALAN1@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com (BWHITTEM)
Subject: [3167] thanks for boat anchor
Message-ID: <1041e9f0@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

thanks to all who sent ba info
ive got it

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: KE3FL@delphi.com
Subject: [3126] The Low returned power high horse
Message-ID: <01I0B4JS383698C8B4@delphi.com>

Those of you talking about measuring low reflected power as the proper way to tune your antennas are simply looking at another form of the same thing, the dreaded SWR you shun. Low reflected power = low SWR. After all, an SWR of 1:1 means no reflected power. So, where's the difference? Low SWR = Low reflected power = Low SWR.

Are you are trying to say that there are times when a high SWR is preferred? There are. But in this case, when we want an antenna that is not 50 ohm impedance but it has a good pattern and/or a high radiation resistance (most of the energy gets into the ether), you will see that both the SWR and reflected power are high.

Are you trying to say that measuring reflected power is better than measuring SWR? If you are, I can't see why since they are one and the same thing. (On one of my SWR meters I have two needles, one for forward power, one for reflected power. It's really nice to see the reflected power go down when I use the tuner, but then, so does the SWR.)

What are you trying to say?

73 de KE3FL/Phil
:-)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: meh@cbsms1.cb.att.com (m.e.hartwell)
Subject: [3176] Tuner parts for sale, maybe
Message-ID: <9601221446.AA05290@emsr1.emsr.att.com>

Hello

I have been looking around in my basement at some of the radio related things I have, but probably won't be using. I found some capacitors I have had with the idea of building an antenna tuner. The tuner I had in mind was for the 100 watt level. Also is about 6 or 7 inches of coil stock about 2 1/2" in dia. with I think 6 turns per inch. The caps are both dual section, one 250pf per section the other I think 300pf per section. How much is the stuff worth as parts for a tuner, and is anyone interested?

Marty kd8bj

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: QLF%mimi@magic.itg.ti.com
Subject: [3117] re: "bad" bands.
Message-ID: <9601221357.AA06761@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: re: "bad" bands.

I would certainly agree with Jess' comments about dead bands. I've always believed that "dead" bands, such as ten meters, are in actuality open much more than we realize. Several years ago when I was operating six meters quite faithfully, many friends berated me for working a "dead" band. But a friend and I started getting on 50.110 (the old SSB calling frequency) every evening to rag chew. It was amazing how often the band would pop open for a bit, and we'd get to work something. Now there were those that would scream at us to get off the calling frequency, but my response to that is that if everyone is on the calling frequency just listening, HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO KNOW THE BAND IS OPEN?!?!?! Get on there and make some noise, and if the band pops open, move off the calling frequency.

I also remember more than once hearing the W1AW beacon booming into North Texas, but to this day I've never worked a Connecticut on six. I tried and tried to find a number for the station at W1AW so I could call and get someone to get on six, but that number is unlisted. Oh, well.

73's

Brad, WB0CGH

>I am not sure that I buy the bad bands altogether. Yes there have been some
>nites that good signals are hard to come by, but yet, most nights they are
>there! You just have to practice the first rule of good operating listen,
>listen, listen. And then when you are done, listen some more. For those of
>you on the list that are new to QRP and especially CW, there is a book out
>there that is a gold mine of good operating practice and information,
>especially if you are into DX. The book is called "The Complete DXer" by
>W9KNI. It is one of the most interesting and entertaining books on CW and
>operating that I have ever read. I read it about 4 years ago, right after

>getting my extra, and it was worth a 40 db gain in operating skill.

>As far as the bands being dead, in the last few days I have worked ZL1 on 40
>559, HP1AC on 20 539, C02PE on 40 559, VY9CRC on 40 599, PY2EYO on 15! 549
>and TI4SV/5 on 40 559.

>I think the key is listening. You can sit there and CQ your brains out and
>right down the band is something juicy. That is why I like CW, even when the
>bands are dead, CW will still provide something worthwhile. Granted there are
>some nites that I have to pump up the power to a mighty QRP kilowatt (5
>watts) but I can still make contacts every nite. Don't discount 30 meters.
>The other nite there was not much on 40, or 80. This was about 12:00 pm local
>(MST) and so I spun over to 30 meters. A once over revealed a ZK1 calling cq
>over and over with no takers. A quick couple of calls got me a QRZ? and then
>a 349, all on a "dead" band long after it should have been closed.

>Hang in there and listen listen listen!

>Best

>Jess

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Paul Christensen <PaulC@jax.se.continental.com>
Subject: [3147] RE: boat anchors list??
Message-ID: <31040150@se.continental.com>

And I would like to join the list. Any info out there?

-Paul, N9AZ

From: qrp-l
Subject: boat anchors list??
From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [3186] Re: Crystal filters or DSP?
Message-ID: <960122214333_302370610@mail06.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-01-22 19:43:55 EST, you write:

>Another sage member, who is currently employed as a radio tech, suggested
>buying
>an onboard DSP instead, considering the cost (~\$100 each) of the optional
>filters.

>

>

All these ideas will help the selectivity of the rig, but the crystal filters are the best solution. Why? Selectivity AHEAD of the IF strip helps to keep the AGC working properly. You can help with audio filtering (DSP, SCAF or analog) but often the damage is done. Also, the crystal filters are physically located inside the rig. Much easier to handle and transport. One less thing to hook up and power.

Not to downplay a good external filter. Some of them can literally work miracles (especially on SSB, never been overly impressed with them on CW) on QRM and noise. But for good design and engineering practice, you want the most poles of filtering as far up front in the radio as is possible.

Frankly, I am surprised that the Sierra breaks new ground with a post-IF crystal filter. Proven years ago to dramatically improve the noise output of receivers, few have adopted it. I'd like to see it become standard in our contemporary QRP kits. Even if it added another \$10 or \$15, it would be worth it.

So, encourage them to get the crystal filter that most plays to your operating habits :-) and a DSP for the SSB contestors in the club.

72 from Houston . . .C U at FDIM
Ed, N5EM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: flanders@GroupZ.net (Jerry Flanders)
Subject: [3153] Re: CT and other stuff
Message-ID: <199601221906.0AA52385@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@gov.on.ca>

Can anyone please tell me what CT and the ilk D0?? as computer programs interfaced to a rig. I now have a rig with the RS232 port, but no clue at all as to what I can achieve by running a cable to the computer.

What controls, info, etc. do these programs do/provide ?

Thanks.

Brien Toronto pepperb@gov.on.ca

=====

The basic connection allows the computer's serial port to key the radio on CW if you build a one-transistor interface for the radio. The major reason to do this is to use the computer's keyboard as a CW keyboard and to also provide for automated logging into the computer's file system. You get extras such as keeping up with your DXCC effort, WAS, etc if you want to implement those features (with SOME of the programs).

For the next step, you would provide a packet controller connected to a local DXCLUSTER node on your computer's second serial port. Then, your computer could beep and let you know who and where the "DX" is (his freq and mode). I think some programs even allow you to only be alerted for certain pre-specified prefixes.

The third step to take would use a third serial port on the computer and interface the radio to the computer also - modern radios provide for control via one of several methods (different with each manufacturer). Then, for example, if the DXCLUSTER announced DX, you could QSY immediately to his freq just by hitting one key on the keyboard!.

Does it make ham radio better? I don't know. Just adds one more toy for us to play with. I like toys as much as the next guy. I need 4 serial ports, and more than one computer!

I use LOG-EQF, by N3EQF. Gives me contesting and rag-chewing and...
Try before you buy.

0.73's

Jerry Flanders W4UKU South Carolina flanders@groupz.net

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [3179] Re: Days Inn room status
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960122002013.00c9b4b4@public.compuser.net>

Dayton QRP Gang,

Just as a follow-up to Paul's post. From what I understand the \$70 rate that the Days Inn Dayton SOUTH (make sure you say DAYTON SOUTH - in Miamisburg) allows you to squeeze as many people into a room as you see fit (?). Otherwise the standard non-QRP special rate is a per person sort of thing. Anyway this is what I was told last year. I also think the rooms reserved have a minimum of two beds - so you don't have one of those Steve Martin/John Candy type of room situations.

Also I hope EVERY QRPer is planning on arriving WEDNESDAY night May 15 so you'll be in time to attend the "Four Days in May (c)" QRP Symposium on Thursday May 16.

See you all there..

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB FDIM(c) Committee.

At 16:45 1/22/96 EST, you wrote:

>Gang,
>I just made reservations at the Days Inn in Dayton, no problem.
>A block of rooms have been set aside for the QRPers, which shows up
>on the reservation computer as "sold out" if you call the nationwide
>toll free number.
>
>Call Days Inn direct at 513-847-8422, talk to Molly in Sales. As of
>this afternoon, there are 58 rooms still available. Far from sold out.
>Identify yourself as being with the "QRP group" for the \$70/nite rate.
>You need to either send the first nites rate via check or a charge
>card number to hold the reservation. All rooms not secured by the
>deposit within 2 weeks of making reservations will be cancelled. While
>I generally don't trust anyone east of the Mississippi, Molly was very
>helpful and accomodating.
>
>GL and CU there,
>Paul NA5N
>
>

Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com
bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca
Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [3139] Re: Fox nite solar forecast
Message-ID: <199601221711.KAA10113@usr3.primenet.com>

At 11:51 AM 1/22/96 EST, Paul Harden wrote:
>(deleted)

>SUMMARY: The geomagnetic storming of last week is over; values now at

>normal "bottom of the bucket" levels ... meaning nothing great, but at
>least normal 40M propagation with normal noise levels. However, the
>sporadic E forecast is encouraging, as this could produce some pleasant
>skip conditions, just what you want for the fox hunts (unless you live
>50 miles away).

>

>(more deleted)

>

Thanks, Paul. Nice information, and easier for the "untrained mind" to remember/understand.

73, de Roger

Roger Hightower, AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996

From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)

Subject: [3113] re: Fused QRP

Message-ID: <199601220426.UAA00207@interval.interval.com>

Jim Fitton mentioned fuses--a great idea. But let's not forget the world's simplest, cheapest, non-burnoutable protection device: a series diode. The NorCal 40A and Sierra both use a 1N5817 shottky diode for this purpose because the low voltage drop (around 0.3V) has a completely negligible effect on power output.

Wayne

N6KR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996

From: Norbert.Heyder@erno.de

Subject: [3125] Re: Fused QRP

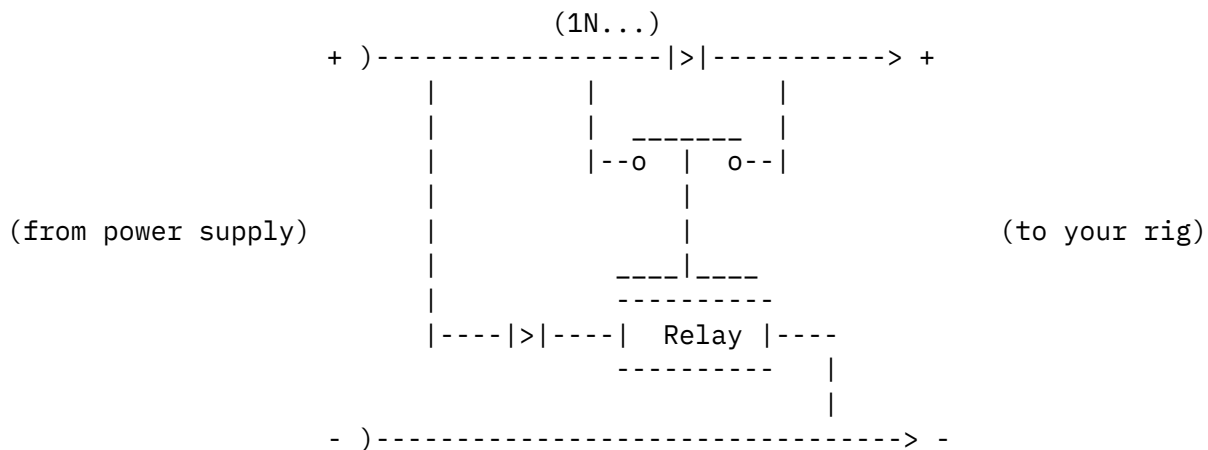
Message-ID: <9601221601.AA05809@mail_s.erno.de>

Hi,

for all those of you who do not like the protection diode reverse crossing the power feedline and also all who have no more fuses in stock:

How about the idea to put a common "ordinary" diode in series

but to "bridge" the diode (to avoid the loss of 0.7V) automatically by a small power relay.
 Of course an additional diode in series with the relay-coil ensures that the relay only switches if the supply polarization is correct!
 This 3 parts should find a place inside your rig!



Crazy?

Save fuses!

Norbert, DL8BDF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
 From: Paul Christensen <PaulC@jax.se.continental.com>
 Subject: [3129] Re: Fused QRP
 Message-ID: <3103E4B2@se.continental.com>

Unless a small, DIP sized, magnetic latching relay is used, the relay coil may be a bit current hungry for battery operated rigs.

-Paul, N9AZ

 From: qrp-1
 Subject: Re: Fused QRP
 From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
 From: Norbert.Heyder@erno.de
 Subject: [3141] Re: Fused QRP
 Message-ID: <9601221716.AA06631@mail_s.erno.de>

Hi Ron, Dennis ...

Now we are nearly perfect.

Indeed we do not need the "main" diode anymore!

But don't forget the antiparallel diode D2 crossing the relay-coil!

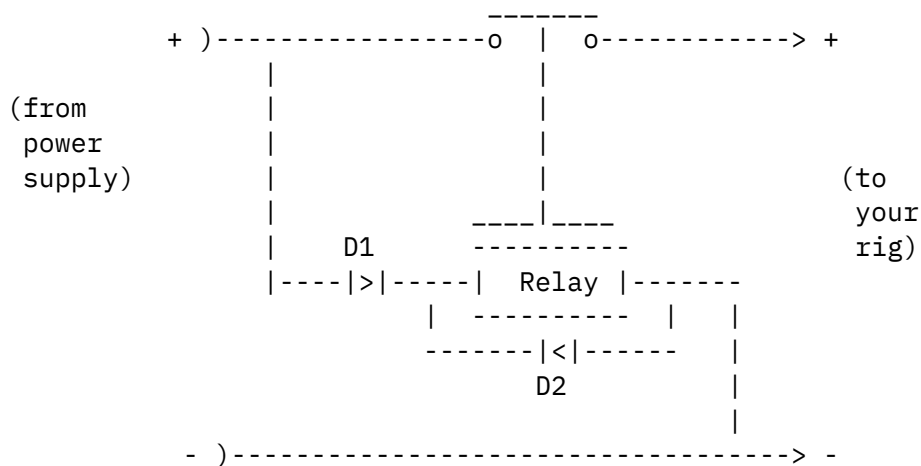
Why?

As far as we know from the basics a relative high voltage with inverse polarity (coming out of the coil) will supply our rig for a short time until the relay-switch will open the circuit (switching mechanic stuff is always slower the magnetic fields!)

Diode D1 is "open" for the reverse voltage from the coil!

This possibly means time and power enough to damage something of the holy rig!

So again we need 3 parts:



72 de Norbert, DL8BDF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3145] Re: Fused QRP
Message-ID: <199601221641.QAA23479@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Norbert,

How about leaving out the diode that you're shorting across?

Now only two parts. Good idea if the relay is small. In QRP rigs this shouldn't be a problem as about 500 mA or so

should do it for most of us.

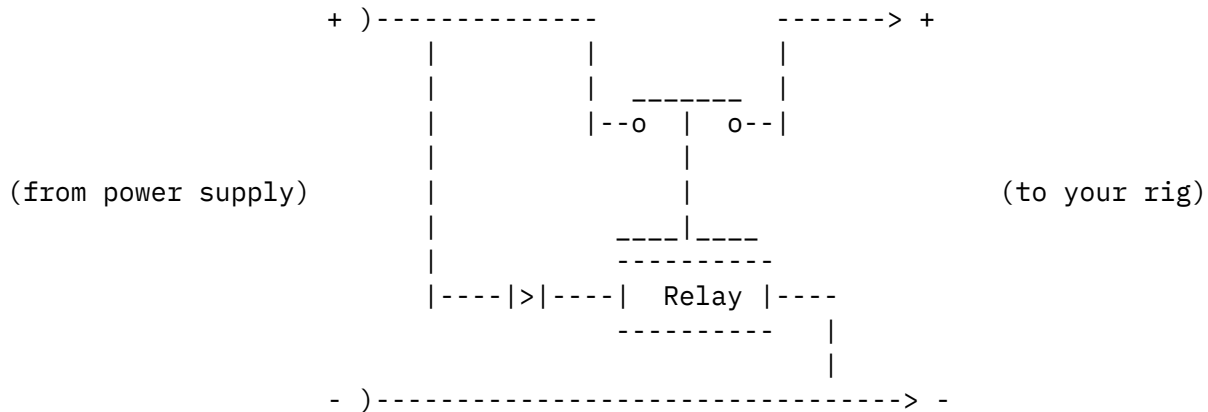
dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 22-Jan-1996 1318" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [3148] re: fused QRP
Message-ID: <9601221819.AA01673@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

Even better, remove one diode:



This way, if you wire it correctly, the relay closes and everything's cool.
If you wire it backwards, the relay never switches, and no damage can
occur, because there's no continuity... Cute idea.

=====
Tom Randolph N100Q NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL randolph@est.enet.dec.com
=====

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: TIMOTHY J PETTIBONE <tpettibo@NMSU.Edu>
Subject: [3150] Re: Fused QRP
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91.960122114647.25231E-100000@hector>

Chuck:

How about using it backwards and only energize the coil if the
polarity is reversed disconnecting the circuit? Wouldn't that save a few

mils?

Tim
AB50U

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: QLF%mimi@magic.itg.ti.com
Subject: [3158] Re: Fused QRP
Message-ID: <9601222002.AA23514@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: Re: Fused QRP

I'd still worry about the milliseconds required to energize the relay. It doesn't take too long to destroy some semiconductors. I recommend putting an LED and current limiting resistor across the power leads AHEAD of the power switch. If the LED doesn't come on, you don't power up the radio. While this is not automatic, and we all make mistakes, this would be a good method, and the LED could only draw 10 mA or so.

Regards,

Brad, WB0CGH

-***** ORIGINAL MSG RECEIVED ON 01/22/96 AT 13:02 FOLLOWS *****-

>How about using it backwards and only energize the coil if the
>polarity is reversed disconnecting the circuit? Wouldn't that save a few
>mils?

>Tim
>AB50U

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Paul Christensen <PaulC@jax.se.continental.com>
Subject: [3159] re: fused QRP
Message-ID: <31041955@se.continental.com>

Another method uses two components: a small panel-mounted circuit breaker in place of an inline fuse, and a *reversed biased* silicon diode with the cathode connected to the opposite line side of the circuit breaker, and the

anode directly to ground. No current is consumed during normal operation, the rig is protected, and there is zero voltage drop to worry about.

If you reverse the polarity to your rig, current flows momentarily through the diode and pops the breaker. This arrangement works well for low-current, QRP applications. In effect, you've incorporated a variation of crowbar protection into the rig.

This is the arrangement I've developed as part of my NiCad charging circuit for the Super CMOS Keyer. In this case, if the regulator was to fail in a shorted state from input to output, a zener diode fires a 2N3053 transistor between the supply voltage and ground, thereby popping the breaker.

Quite honestly though, I think Wayne's idea of using a series, in-line Shottkey diode is more than sufficient, given it's 0.3 volt drop.

-Paul, N9AZ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: herr@ridgecrest.ca.us (Michael Herr)
Subject: [3115] Re>Hw-8 to build or not to build
Message-ID: <v01530500ad29c219d9a2@[199.120.150.82]>

Build the kit! Fulfil it's destiny!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: QLF%mimi@magic.itg.ti.com
Subject: [3131] re: LOW REFELCTED POWER
Message-ID: <9601221631.AA07153@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: re: LOW REFELCTED POWER

Tuning for lowest reflected power does not necessarily indicate highest forward power. It is very possible to have a fairly low reflected power measured at the input to the tuner, but still not have maximum power transfer. That's what I like about the cross needle wattmeters. It is very easy to tune for minimum reflected power while also tuning for maximum forward power. The "calculating" SWR meters will allow the same ease of tuning.

Brad, WB0CGH

Brad Bradfield, PE
108 Forestwood
Corinth, TX 76205

Electrical Design Engineer
Texas Instruments, Inc.

(H) 817-321-2960
(W) 214-462-6230

ARRL Life Member QRP-L #377 SMIRK #4906 IEEE (M)

Brad, and fellow antenna perfectionists:
But the cross needle meter is measuring is at the SAME point before the tuner. What you say, could also mean, that although the tuner is adjusted to dissipate the maximum forward power, it might be losing some as heat, and not all that forward power is delivered to the antenna. And the cross needle would only say you are developing maximum power at the INPUT TO THE TUNER. As a practical matter, I think for a tuner, the SWR minimum and power transfer TO THE TUNER, are going to be close to the same settings, for a PROPERLY adjusted, low loss tuner. See the recent postings on Tuners, and the pieces in QST and Com Quarterly about tuners and losses. (In the last couple years). The type of tuner and a lot of other issues arise as well. Now, are there any cross needle units that have TWO PICKUP HEADS, so you could measure SWR at the tuner input, and power transfer out of the TUNER? (Only works for coax fed antenna.)

Can anyone report a properly operating tuner that did not dip in SWR when the power was Max.? Now another pitfall, that may cause this; is RF on the shield of the coax and other such anomalies. I had a tuner that magnetically coupled to the rig, if it sat, (in its aluminum, non magnetic shielding case,) on top

of the rig. It operated as expected if it was beside the rig with spacing between. Could this be what you have seen?

The main point is well taken, SWR is not everything and you must be sure you are really measuring it in a way that reflects, what is going into the feedpoint of the antenna.

Who is going to come up with the first lightweight remote pickup and dipole feed insulator, for SWR measuring at the Antenna? I would get concerned about placing diodes high in the air, unless the pickup box is both electrically and magnetically shielded, but this could be done with a mu metal foil and a plastic box. This could go inline to the feedpoint, and your coax could have a messenger wire or two to bring the DC indication down to your meter. I don't know if all that effort is worth it. I often see folks get out pretty well no matter what the SWR is.

If a protection zener or fancier shut down circuit is in the final of the rig, there is little concern for SWR at QRP levels. I think a good rig design would include that. I worry more about storm transients, like those that have been taking out QRP+ front ends in the recent Sand Storm. Static build up, especially in dry winters is the big risk to rigs, behind electrical storms inducing things on a connected antenna.

Cut your dipole or other antenna by formula to the middle of the band, or if you want the very best match, cut a dipole by formula, put it up at $1/2$ wave high, and measure carefully at the end of half wavelength of feedline, the impedance. All this at the cut frequency, and correct the half wave line for Velocity factor accurately. Then, if the dipole is not 72 ohms, you have found that your local ground or site conditions introduces a correction factor that you must crank into each antenna project. By lowering or raising the entire horizontal dipole, determine what height gives 72 ohms. Now, if that is not $1/2$ wave above physical earth, you have found that true RF ground is below local surface, or perhaps above. This can be influenced by local water table especially, in coastal areas, where you may have salt in the ground water, or maybe your antenna is sited over a concrete driveway with a mesh screen in the slab. You can by the same token, find the dipole height above physical surface that gives a match to 50 ohms, as that is probably what you really want.

This test could be done at 10 or 15 meters with little wire invested.

Just record what percentage off a true half wave high you are, and in the future, if your sub surface has not changed, you can correctly place other dipoles. If you find your RF ground has measured considerably below the surface, then for a vertical, you would get best results with an independent ground screen, or radial field. There might be a difference from lowest band to highest, and maybe someone will report if this is in the literature.

The best verticals, seem to be the elevated ones with independent radial or

counterpoise systems, probably because that makes them less vulnerable to changing surface and soil conditions which affect reflections.

The best long wires and dipoles seem to sit over soils like Chuck has in North Tex., or Henry, or some of the other successful Fox Hunters and Foxes. (Rich, dark soils that hold moisture, and have conductive salts in them.) Same for those over coastal marshes, or by the beach.

Some of us sit on limestone rocks, or sandy desert soils, and then there is Lew McCoy who retired over a silver mine, the best conductor of all! (Wonder if that is why he went to Silver City N.M.?) Probably we all should think about doing what AM Broadcast stations have done for years, and by means of copper wire or hardware cloth, place just below our yard or garden a uniform RF reference, to form a reflector for any antenna we put above. Then we could have more uniform results in our antenna experiments. Comparison of different antennas could proceed from a more uniform basis, which is what an "antenna range" does for you.

Well, this has run on, but I think that would be neat project for several to do over different soils and compare results. Might give more insight to this SWR variation that we all see with the same designs.

72, Stuart K5KVH
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: teda@lexis-nexis.com (Ted Albert)
Subject: [3133] Re: NA QSO Party/ Fireside SSB Sprint
Message-ID: <199601221638.LAA00514@rain.lexis-nexis.com>

I managed just 2 contacts on 40 meters for the Fireside SSB Sprint. I did hear one station on an R2/T2 combo, but was unable to contact him. The R2/T2 sounded great!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: rheiss@tuba.aix.calpoly.edu
Subject: [3172] Re: NA QSO Party/ Fireside SSB Sprint
Message-ID: <9601222156.AA45418@tuba.aix.calpoly.edu>

Mixed results from running a 2W PEP Argo on the low bands this weekend...
The warm-up: one hour of NA QSO Party produced 9 contacts in 4 states.
The main event: four hours of Fireside Sprint produced one contact, ouch!

I've had better operating success with CW but will continue to mess with phone for several reasons. The homebrew projects are more interesting and challenging. During my solo field operations it's refreshing to hear a familiar voice and chat with the locals. And when it's show and tell time at the local club (mostly phone ops and Techs) it would be nice to have some gear they consider fun, rather than our usual low-band CW stuff.

So far, I'm brewing a balanced modulator to convert one of my CW kits to SSB, and parts are on order to construct a simplified (250mW, phone only) version of the KH6CP rig in the 96 ARRL Handbook. Gosh, it's been almost two decades since I've designed and etched a circuit board at home. Some day soon we'll get a new rig working and retire the Argonaut.

73, Rob K06KA
rheiss@tuba.calpoly.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Gene Marcus <mmarcus@hiwaay.net>
Subject: [3183] RE: NA QSO Party/ Fireside SSB Sprint
Message-ID: <01BAE906.E1D63F20@max2-141.HiWAAY.net>

Ted Albert writes:

>I managed just 2 contacts on 40 meters for the Fireside SSB Sprint. I
>did hear one station on an R2/T2 combo, but was unable to contact him.
>The R2/T2 sounded great!

The R2/T2 combo you heard may have been mine. I was not a contest participant, however, I did manage to work five contest stations on 40 meters using my R2T2 combo. The R2T2 uses a Hands power amplifier from Kanga set to 10 watts PEP output and 5 watts CW output. When I first built the rig, I intended to put the R2 on 2 meters as an IF for a 2.4 GHz downconverter and use the T2 on 70 cm to use as a portable Oscar 10/13 mode S station. Somewhere along the way I was sidetracked and temporarily set it up for 40 meters. As it turns out, 40 meters has been such a fun band to use, the original project is progressing at a very slow pace.

73....Gene W3PM GM4YRE
Huntsville, AL
w3pm@amsat.org

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: W3HMS@aol.com
Subject: [3110] Re: no code techs and PROBLEMS OVER THE HORIZON
Message-ID: <960121223733_403014047@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Peter....not too surprised abt the No Coders and repeater clubs....some of these are just admin radio Clubs where nothing of any technical merit is on the agenda. If you have more info, on this topic, I would appreciate getting it.

CW, lets keep it forever (or almost) on HF.

John W3HMS

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: W3HMS@aol.com
Subject: [3111] Re: no code techs and PROBLEMS OVER THE HORIZON
Message-ID: <960121223738_403014122@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Ron.....yes, you may be right as they only have 26% of the US hams as members yet they told us the majority of members wanted the No Code. This has got to be so much rose fertilizer by the mere operation of the numbers. I like QRP for the emphasis to using skill and talent in building and operating. We don't need the HF bands to sound like 27 Mhz.

73,72 John

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "Jerry B. Altzman" <jbaltz@scisun.sci.ccny.cuny.edu>

Subject: [3124] Re: no code techs and PROBLEMS OVER THE HORIZON
Message-ID: <CMM.0.90.0.822324937.jbaltz@scisun.sci.ccny.cuny.edu>

Please, let's not get into the eliminate-the-code/keep-the-code debate here in QRP-L. If you want, you can join in the fray on usenet.

Thanks!

//jbaltz

jerry b. altzman Entropy just isn't what it used to be +1 212 650 5617
jbaltz@sci.ccny.cuny.edu jbaltz@columbia.edu KE3ML (HEPNET) NEVIS::jbaltz

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [3140] Re: no code techs and PROBLEMS OVER THE HORIZON
Message-ID: <960122121424_123801885@mail04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-01-22 10:42:10 EST, you write:

>Please, let's not get into the eliminate-the-code/keep-the-code debate
>here in QRP-L. If you want, you can join in the fray on usenet.

>

>Thanks!

>

>

AMEN.

Ed, N5EM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: rheiss@tuba.aix.calpoly.edu
Subject: [3122] Re: OHR vfo drift addendum
Message-ID: <9601221524.AA82689@tuba.aix.calpoly.edu>

It could be the trimmer capacitor. I note that my OHR kit (and my Hands as well) supplied the cheapest kind of trimmer rather than a low drift type. Other than that, they supplied top quality parts so I don't know what they were thinking. PCB drills just arrived from Mouser; when the new trimmers come in I will substitute and let you know if that helps.

73, Rob K06KA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: mjsilva@ix.netcom.com (michael silva)
Subject: [3149] Re: Qdope - A reaction
Message-ID: <199601221846.KAA27388@ix5.ix.netcom.com>

This is as good a time as any for me to mention my latest Q-dope substitute (I never did get anything acceptable from dissolved packing peanuts) It's really simplicity itself -- I just thin out model airplane cement with toluol (sp?). AFAIK the main ingredient in the cement is polystyrene, so it should be RF-friendly. Best of all, all the ingredients are at the local hardware store.

73,
Mike, KK6GM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Jim Cummings <jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca>
Subject: [3118] Re: QRP TTY unit ("TQ1"), tentative description
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960122082258.7964A-100000@clark.dgim.doc.ca>

On Tue, 16 Jan 1996, Wayne Burdick wrote:

> Hey, the ARRL says 7.040 is a TTY calling frequency, and of course the TTY
> gang jumped on it. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em: I'm doing QRP TTY!
>
> So far I've been doing it cross-mode with the first version of my TTY
> reader. I transmit CW, they transmit Baudot. This amuses the TTY folk but
> you don't get much respect.
>
> I'm now just about finished with the prototype of a cheap little TTY/CW
> unit (code name, "TQ1") that has a PIC, a 16x2-line LCD, a few switches,
> and a place to plug in your keyer paddle. It has an FSK data output that
> connects directly to the RIT circuit on the Sierra or '40A so you can
> actually transmit TTY (just Baudot for now).
>
> Tentative TQ1 feature list:
>
> * (If someone has a patent on this, tell me now!)
> In TTY mode, you either push buttons to send
> canned messages, OR YOU SEND CW TO THE BOX WITH THE PADDLE,

> which goes out as TTY. Voila: no keyboard necessary.
> (A later version will have a serial input so you
> can use any PDA, laptop, or dumb terminal keyboard).
>

Not wishing to take the wind out of your sails....

AEA had an interesting little box called the RC-8, as I can recall. It took in a variety of inputs - current loop, ASCII keyboard and Morse code input. I had one of these boxes and I used a paddle, but I found it tedious using the morse code key. So I went and got a CW keyboard. After using this for a couple of months successfully, my car was broken into and it was stolen and never recovered. With the insurance money, I bought a Telereader CWR-685E, which was also marketed in the US by Hal with their own brand name.

I think what your developing is a marvellous idea. However, I would encourage you to consider to adding a keyboard input. I don't think that they consume unacceptable levels of power.

> (My logic on this: canned messages will make up
> a good chunk of QRP TTY contacts, and the other
> part can be conducted at CW speeds, which aren't
> that much slower than observed TTY typing speeds.)
>

This has not been my experience. However, there are so few QRP RTTYers that no protocols or special procedures have evolved. But this could be a good feature for the contests, as well as the usual brag files (a.k.a. brag tape)

> * BIG nonvolatile message buffers for CW or TTY,
> with quick access to all buffers and other settings.
>
> * DC power is patched through the TQ1 so that you can
> optionally reduce supply voltage to the transceiver
> in TTY mode. This means you don't fry your final, AND
> your PA transistor still stays at around 50 ohms.
>
> Example: Sierra puts out 2W at 14V DC. Drop voltage
> to 10V and you'll put out 1W. In both cases, the
> collector impedance is around 50 ohms, using
> $Z = V_{cc}^2 / (2 * P_o)$.

If it works, go for it. However, I would rather control the transceiver independently of this box.

>
> * Audio is patched through the TQ1, too, so that you
> hear your rig's audio on receive, and the TQ1
> sidetone on transmit.
>

Listening for the audio is a must for tuning. You might want to also consider adding a visual tuning aid. See the Oct/Nov/Dec issues of the Digital digest where the president of Hal wrote a series of marvellous articles on visual tuning aids, including rolling your own, for tuning digital signals on HF.

> * Est. finished size will be 1"H x 2"D x 3.5"W. It
> can be operated with the display facing either up
> or forward, depending on the operating position.
>
> * Est. current drain: 8 to 15mA on receive, a bit
> higher on transmit. This will accomplish my goal
> of making the unit compatible with field operation.
>
>
> I'll be looking for a beta tester at some point, and this could be a NorCal
> project if there's enough interest. It certainly will be a Wilderness kit
> (est price, < \$100) unless I get too many comments of the form, "CW paddle
> to send TTY? Are you joking?"
>

I hope that this project will encourage others to try this mode. (Perhaps you will consider this an offer as one of your beta testers??)

> Once again I'm out on a limb with no idea if anyone else wants to do this.
> Any QRP TTY specialists out there? Any suggestions? Do we need QRP AMTOR?
> (jeez, I hope not--not enough code space :)

Well, to be honest, all the TOR modes, AMTOR and Pactor, are better suited for QRP. However, for casual contacts, Baudot is still popular.

Perhaps a plug-in board with an EEPROM for each mode might be in order.

>
>
> 73,
> Wayne
>
>

Good Luck with the project and keep us informed with your progress.

73 and live better digitally
Jim, VE3XJ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [3144] Re: QRP TTY unit ("TQ1"), tentative description
Message-ID: <v02130507ad29822fded2@[199.170.106.28]>

Jim,

>AEA had an interesting little box called the RC-8

I've heard of this from others, too. But I believe it was larger, more expensive, and had higher current drain. I'm trying to optimize for ultra-small, cheap, and long battery life :)

>I would encourage you to consider to adding a keyboard input.

I did! I'm going with a PIC16C73, which has serial I/O built in, so it's a no-brainer.

>I would rather control the transciever independently of this box.

I came to this same conclusion. I'll provide a logic output (open drain, active low, like all the others) that one could use to do automatic control if desired.

>Listening for the audio is a must for tuning. You might
>want to also consider adding a visual tuning aid.

The audio will be simply be the same as the audio output from the receiver, so tuning won't be a problem. Also, the cursor on the LCD will track the carrier-lock detect output of the FSK decoder as a tuning aid. I've tried this and it seems to work better than a separate tuning indicator. Reason: you get to look at the incoming text and at the cursor at the same time, and at the same physical spot on the display, so you get co-located feedback as to incoming error rate and lock detect with less eye movement.

>Well, to be honest, all the TOR modes, AMTOR and Pactor, are better
>suited for QRP. However, for casual contacts, Baudot is still popular.

AMTOR will be supported later with the same hardware; just a processor upgrade.

73,
Wayne

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [3162] Re: QRP TTY unit ("TQ1"), tentative description
Message-ID: <960122151424_203695841@emout06.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-01-22 13:13:12 EST, you write:

>AMTOR will be supported later with the same hardware; just a processor
>upgrade.

>
>
>73,
>Wayne
>
>
>

QRP Amtor, all from your NC40A or Sierra, could this be the start of
something big (in a QRP sense)? Could I possibly satisfy my thirst for email
contact and get some operating in at the same time? Could I reduce my email
bill? Questions, questions, questions.

72
Ed

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Jim Cummings <jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca>
Subject: [3170] Re: QRP TTY unit ("TQ1"), tentative description
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960122153937.22437B-100000@clark.dgim.doc.ca>

On Mon, 22 Jan 1996, Wayne Burdick wrote:

> Hello, Select Group of the RTTY Aware,

I agree with Wayne's observation that separate connectors for different functions are a pain and it would be better to gather them all into one connection - his proposal being a DB15. I agree except for the following input device - the keyboard....

>
> 4. RS232 connections for an external terminal. This is as close to
> standard as it gets, but we all know how likely it is that something "RS232
> compatible" can just be plugged in. Might as well use pins 2 and 3 of a
> 15-pin D connector.
>

There is a fair degree of standardization for keyboard connectors - the 5 pin DIN, and there are a number of PS2 connector, for which there are cheap adapters. It would be more straight forward to provide a separate connector for the key board and then another for the radio connections. If this proposal were adopted, then instead of using a DB15, then a DB9 could be used, which I suspected is generally more available.

> How do other T.U.'s, especially the compact, do-all units, handle this situation?
>

PK232 - DB25 for connection to compooter/terminal. Radio connections normally with a 5 pin edge connector, and, if necessary, a mini-phone jack for the recieved audio for demoduation. Power connector is a barrel connector. FSK line is derived from a 5 pin DIN, if the user is so inclined (as I am with my 751)

Kam - Same barrel connector for power and DB25 for the compooter/terminal. Connections to a VHF radio are through a DB9 connector, while HF is through a DIN - 5 pin, as I recall, but I could be wrong.

> An advantage to this is that all connections for the TQ1 could be routed
> through a single cable into the rig. Once you had the requisite connector
> and circuitry installed inside the rig to support the TQ1, you'd have only
> one connector to hook up when you change rigs. Less messy. I could even
> put a TQ1-compatible data port on future Wilderness rigs as a selling
> feature.
>

But it is likely to make the unit unstable for operating in "unusual" environments. For example, I would like forward to using this for RTTY mobile while my wife, VE3FLQ, is driving my Ford Ranger and I am using my

brand new 706... Just a thought... sigh....

> Thanks for your time,
> Wayne
> N6KR
>

I thought I saw some concerns about converting FIGS to LTRS case, if there was a "hit". Someone suggested that perhaps the appropriate case character would be sent occasionally to ensure the correctly received text. I disagree. It should be up to the receive station to adjust to the condition. I would highly recommend that a couple of momentary toggle switches be included to force the appropriate case at the receive end. Another possibility is to provide for USOS, translated as UnShift On Space. This is a feature of the modern data controllers and resolves 95 percent of these problems. When the receive station reads a space, it automatically forces to LTRS case. This results in those exchanges in contests when one sees

UR RST 599 TTO TTO TTO

Therefore, I might suggest the hardware solution because it is most flexible.

> >

73 and live better digitally
Jim VE3XJ

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [3178] Re: QRP+
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960122001543.00c95490@public.compuser.net>

Bill and QRP-L gang,

Sorry to hear about another QRP+ front end biting the dust (so to say..). Actually mine did that twice (although I believe it was a T/R problem the second time around) before I returned to Bruce for refund.

Anyone out there have a "desert storm" fix for the QRP+ front ends. The only time I have ever experienced this "blown front end " (actually the MiniCircuit static ring mixer blown) was with an old Icom R-71 receiver I had. I noticed there that Icom used a little "grain-of-wheat" type light

bulb as an rf front end "fuse" in series with the antenna line for protection - and that is what it did - protected the front end by blowing the light bulb fuse first before more damage was done. As an aside it was also a great rf indicator, when back in my "youth" I noticed that my SB-220 rf output was causing a strange light to emerge from the "not-turned-on" R-71A. Hmmm it even followed my code speed..

So I'd be interested if anyone has had blown front ends with other rigs that use the MiniCircuit mixer such as the OHR Spirit, Classic, Quadbander (although come to think of it Dick uses an rf amplifier stage prior to the mixer).

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 07:25 1/19/96 EST, you wrote:

>On Thu, 18 Jan 1996, William R Colbert wrote:

>> Unfortunately, we had high winds yesterday

>> (80 kts+), same as Tim was talking about in New Mexico, and one of the

>> gusts had lots of energized sand with it - so much for the mixer of the

>> QRP+ - no receive, no transmit - back to Index for warranty work.

Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - ARCI, QRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com
bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca
Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996

From: Rick Blank <rblank@legend.txdirect.net>

Subject: [3182] Re: Results: HW-8, To Build or Not to Build

Message-ID: <199601230121.TAA00602@legend.txdirect.net>

At 07:05 PM 1/22/96 EST, you wrote:

>Hi Folks-

>

>A few days ago I asked the QRP-L to help me wrestle with a question: To Build

>or Not to Build a recently acquired unbuilt HW-8. I enjoyed the responses,

>and the lively discussion.

>

>The results of my poll were as follows:

>

>Build it: 8

>Don't Build it: 12

*****STUFF DELETED*****

>My decision.

>

>Well, the decision is a personal one, and I cannot disagree with anyone who
>wrote and shared their feelings. But I especially resonate to the view that
>"HW-8's (built) are common (and inexpensive). Go find one that's sick, and
>fix it up and modify it to death. It'll be just as much fun, and you can
>keep the unbuilt one in tact."

>

>Financial value does not enter into my decision. But I do think it's worth
>preserving the Heathkit legacy, and letting people see what the kits looked
>like in kit form. I was surprised to open the box, and discover that Heath
>provided a roll of Kester solder in a little plastic bag! (Not to mention
>wire, cable and alignment tools).

>

>Thousands of built Heath radios are around for people to see the final
>product. I think it's worth hanging on to a few of the unbuilt radios for
>posterity.

>

>So for the time being, I'm decided to put this jewel away. Contact me when
>you're passing through Chapel Hill, NC, and we can unpack it together, admire
>it, put it away, and fire up my OHR-400 or Sierra.

>

>Thanks again to all that wrote. It was lots of fun, and I enjoyed reading
>your views.

>

>73,

>

>Rob, WA3ULH

>

>

One more piece of Americana and radio history perserved! But to pacify the
those who said you ought to build it, you might want to have a constructed
one on hand for the incidents when one of them may show up! Restoration can
be as much fun as building!

Rick Blank, KI5SL	rblank@txdirect.net
2223 Blanco Road	KI5SL@K3WGF.STX.USA.NOAM
San Antonio, Texas 78212	AMSAT NA#26195

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Paul Christensen <PaulC@jax.se.continental.com>

Subject: [3128] RE: S Meters?
Message-ID: <3103E3C0@se.continental.com>

I just ordered a Ten-Tec Scout panel meter for my Sierra. It looks like the perfect match. It should be possible to calibrate the 50 Watt power scale to a 5 watt scale. The top of the edge-type meter indicates S-units.

-Paul, N9AZ

From: qrp-l
Subject: S Meters?
From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: [3157] Re: Winter Fireside SSB Sprint
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960122125843.12850A-100000@ume>

Listened for 3 hours on 14.285.....heard two guys (CA and AZ) calling and worked them both with solid 57 signals. Otherwise noise!
However, I did figure out what was wrong with my Cascade audio section so it was still worth while to be in the "shack" even if the harmonic had far more contacts on 146.55 FM simplex during the VHF contest on at the same time!

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)	*	VE6GK
Clinical Assistant Professor	*	NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Calgary	*	"Power is no substitute for skill"

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca (Paul Erickson)
Subject: [3169] Re: Winter Fireside SSB Sprint
Message-ID: <9601222050.AA07389@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>

Pretty quite on 14.285 here in B.C. Heard VE4AK? but could not work him.

Did work NQ7X at 2057z 57/57 #8874

Did anyone else have trouble with the gro net at 14.284?

cheers, Paul
VE7CQK
email: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Mon Jan 22 21:31:30 1996
From: "MSgt Cameron C.R. Bailey" <CBAILEY@PAMDT.ANG.AF.MIL>
Subject: [3116] re: Wyoming Valley QRPers
Message-ID: <heH8+OPs+1A@PAMDT.ANG.AF.MIL>

I can't speak for Wyoming Valley. Have not heard from K7YHA, Rich.
I can relate info from Harrisburg, PA. Though not a resident of
Harrisburg, I live 3 miles from the river. 17 deaths in the state
as a result of flooding. 8000 evacuated from Harrisburg. River has
crested 10 feet above flood stage. A historic metal structure, the
Walnut street bridge had several spans lost. It was used by
pedestrians only at this time. Amateur radio was used by Red Cross
to communicate with shelters. The Governor had to evacuate as well.
There are some row home fires along the flooded area this morning.
As if those folks did not have enough problems. Some nice homes there.

OBQRP: Worked 40 last night. QRN was low. Everyone must have been
in the VHF contest. Band was sparce around 7.040.

Thanks for caring. 72 de KT3A.

Cam Bailey
SOGNET LAN Administrator (Banyan)
211 Engineering Installation Squadron
Fort Indiantown Gap (Annville) PA
DSN: 491-8737 Comm: 717-861-8737 FAX: 8268